

Dallas, Texas

27 April 1964

REPORT OF PSYCHIATRIC EXAMINATION OF JACK RUBY

Upon re-examining Mr. Jack Ruby from 8:00 to 9:30 this morning, I found his condition to be considerably improved over last night. His general aspect was changed from one of agitated suspiciousness to one of wary bewilderment. He tried to avoid discussion of his delusional pre-occupations that the Jews were being murdered. Apparently a visit from his sister last night had reassured him somewhat. However when I asked him about his brothers, he mumbled: "I imagine they're gone." Then when he was told that his brother Earl was also coming to see him, and had been contacted by long-distance telephone, he said that he must have been mistaken about the identity of the man he took to be his brother being killed out in the street, the previous night. When I asked him how he knew it was even a Jew he had seen, he carefully avoided my glance and said: "That's a good question."

Mr. Ruby was clearly suspicious and evasive during this interview. After seeing me, he told his visiting Rabbi that he couldn't trust me, because he didn't know what part I "might have in it", and revealed that he thought the murders were really still going on but that it would be safer to avoid the subject.

There were many signs of considerable improvement of symptoms overnight. There was a return of his known previous willingness to discuss the Oswald slaying, and he gave some attention to the progress of his defense, although this interest was still considerably less than usual according to one of his attorneys. While he frequently mentioned Oswald by name last night, today again (as always heretofore) he referred to him only as "the deceased" or "that person". He reviewed his account of the Oswald slaying, which was consistent with that given during the florid psychotic period last night. This material is not reported here.

During the interview there were four periods, lasting from one to three minutes each, of obvious auditory hallucinations. The patient would quickly rise, move to a corner of the room, and stand with head cocked, eyes wide and darting about. Once he heard the voices coming

PSYCHIATRIC EXAMINATION.

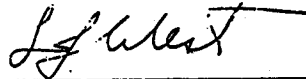
from below, and crawled under the table to listen. His spontaneous comments, and responses to my questions, both revealed that the hallucinations were of human groans and cries, sometimes of children or a child, and that the patient thought these might be Jews under torture. However, when each hallucinatory episode ceased, he would quickly try to gather together the threads of our previous conversation, and discuss some other topic.

Throughout the examination the patient frequently rubbed or covered his left eye, and occasionally complained of unpleasant head sensations and a sense of difficulty in thinking. "My thoughts keep going around in circles."

DIAGNOSTIC IMPRESSION:

Remains unchanged. The patient is now in partial remission. He might continue to improve, in which case the psychotic break will have been of the "twenty-four hour" variety often seen by the military psychiatrist among men under stress. If so, it might recur under future stress. On the other hand, this morning's improvement may be merely part of the usual fluctuation of intensity of psychopathology common in paranoid psychoses. If so, unpredictable outbursts of psychotic behavior, and fluctuating degrees of contact with reality hour by hour, can be expected.

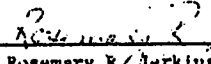
It is still my belief that this individual should be in a psychiatric hospital for observation, study, and treatment at the present time.



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STATE OF OKLAHOMA

Subscribed and sworn to before me by Louis Jolyon West, M.D., to certify which witness my hand and seal of office this 28th day of April, A.D. 1964.


Rosemary R. Jerkins
Notary Public